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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/920,296	08/02/2001	Akira Shibata	1883-41	3894

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EXAMINER

VAN HANDEL, MICHAEL P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2617

DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/920,296	SHIBATA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Michael Van Handel	2617	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4, 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hylton et al.

Referring to claim 1, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (system for supplying broadband signals from a digital network to a number of set-top boxes and associated televisions)(Fig. 1) comprising retransmission device 10 (shared processing system) for receiving a plurality of high-frequency signals 5 (digital network) of different broadcast signaling systems and converting the received signals into high-frequency signals of a common signaling system (col. 4, l. 57-64)(col. 5, l. 12-15, 33-41, 58-67)(col. 6, l. 1-33)(Fig. 1), and a plurality of display devices 100 (terminals) for receiving the high-frequency signals transmitted from the retransmission device 10 and displaying contents of the received signals (col. 8, l. 6-10)(Fig. 1).

Referring to claim 2, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (Fig. 1) as defined in claim 1, wherein the retransmission device 10 is provided with a plurality of a broadcast receiving means 11, 13 (channel selectors and program selectors) for receiving and demodulating a plurality of high-frequency signals of different broadcast signaling systems, and converting the received signals into a plurality of different baseband signals (col. 3, l. 29-35)(col. 5, l. 33-41)(Fig. 1), a signal selecting means 11, 13, 19 (channel selectors, program selectors, and

Art Unit: 2617

controller) for selecting one or plural baseband signals from the plural difference baseband signals (col. 5, l. 58-67)(col. 6, l. 1-4)(Fig. 1), a parallel-to-serial converting means (multiplexer 15) for inputting in parallel the baseband signals outputted from the signal selecting means 11, 13, 19, rearranging the inputted signals into serial signals and outputting the serial signals (col. 6, l. 8-17)(col. 9, l. 3-6)(col. 10, l. 49-60)(col. 11, l. 58-64)(col. 12, l. 58-62)(Fig. 1) and a common signal transmitting means 17, 27 (modulator and antenna) for converting the baseband signals from the parallel-to-serial converting means 15 into high-frequency signals of the common signaling system and transmitting the converted signals (col. 6, l. 18-33), and the plural display devices 100 is provided with a common signal receiving means 29, 101, 102 (antenna, Transport Interface Module (TIM), and Digital Entertainment Terminal (DET)) for receiving the high-frequency signals of the common signaling system and a display means 103 for displaying broadcast contents of the received signals from the common signal receiving means 29, 101, 102 (col. 8, l. 6-10)(Fig. 1).

Referring to claim 3, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (Fig. 1) as defined in claim 2, wherein the display device 100 is provided with a selection signal transmitting means 29, 101, 102 (antenna, Transport Interface Module (TIM), and Digital Entertainment Terminal (DET)) for transmitting a selection signal for selecting a desired one of high-frequency signals of the plural different signaling systems 5 (col. 8, l. 18-22) and the retransmission device 10 is provided with a selection signal receiving means 19, 21, 27 for receiving the selection signal, demodulating/converting the selection signal into switching signals for the signal selecting means (col. 8, l. 22-30, 38-59).

Art Unit: 2617

Referring to claim 4, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (Fig. 1) as defined in claim 3, wherein the selection signal transmitting means 29, 101, 102 is provided with an infrared-receiving portion 145 for receiving a selection signal from an infrared remote control transmitter 85 (col. 16, l. 54-58)(Figs. 1, 4) and a radio transmitting portion 212 for transmitting in the form of radio waves the selection signal from the infrared-receiving portion 145 (col. 19, l. 35-50)(Figs. 1, 4), and the selection signal receiving means 19, 21, 27 is provided with a receiver 21, 27 for receiving the selection signal transmitted from the radio-transmitting portion (col. 19, l. 51-65)(Figs. 1, 4).

Referring to claim 6, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (Fig. 1) as defined in claim 1, wherein the high-frequency signal of the common signaling system has a frequency band of the millimeter wavelength (the examiner notes that any transmitted signal will have a wavelength of some millimeter quantity, since a millimeter is a measure of length. Wavelength is directly related to frequency).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 5, 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hylton et al. in view of Tanaka.

Referring to claim 5, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (system for supplying broadband signals from a digital network to a number of set-top boxes and

Art Unit: 2617

associated televisions)(Fig. 1) comprising retransmission device 10 (shared processing system) for receiving a plurality of high-frequency signals 5 (digital network) of different broadcast signaling systems. Hylton et al. does not disclose a power switching means for turning on and off respective power supply circuits of the plural receivers and demodulators, and the signal selecting means turns ON the power supply circuits of the receiver and demodulator related to selected signal and turns OFF the power supply circuits related to not-selected signal. Tanaka discloses a remote controller 2 with a select switch for selecting an AV signal coming from a tuner 7 or one of the AV signals entered via external AV input/output terminals (col. 2, l. 51-54)(Fig. 1). The controller is connected to the AV apparatuses to control a power on/off operation of the connected AV apparatuses (col. 3, l. 25-32)(Fig. 1). Any apparatus that is not needed can be powered off (col. 4, l. 35-37)(Fig. 1). It would have been obvious to anyone of ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made to modify Hylton et al. to include power supply circuits and power on/off control circuitry for the channel selector 11 and program selector 13 such as that taught by Tanaka in order to provide a power control apparatus that turns off the power to those devices that are not required by the system for the time being (col. 1, l. 65-68)(col. 2, l. 1-2).

Referring to claim 7, Hylton et al. discloses a broadcast signal receiving system (system for supplying broadband signals from a digital network to a number of set-top boxes and associated televisions)(Fig. 1) comprising retransmission device 10 (shared processing system) for receiving a plurality of high-frequency signals 5 (digital network) of different broadcast signaling systems, wherein the high-frequency signal of the common signaling system has a frequency band of the millimeter wavelength (the examiner notes that any transmitted signal will

Art Unit: 2617

have a wavelength of some millimeter quantity, since a millimeter is a measure of length.

Wavelength is directly related to frequency).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Van Handel whose telephone number is 571.272.5968.


The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on 571.272.7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael Van Handel
Examiner
Art Unit 2617

MVH


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